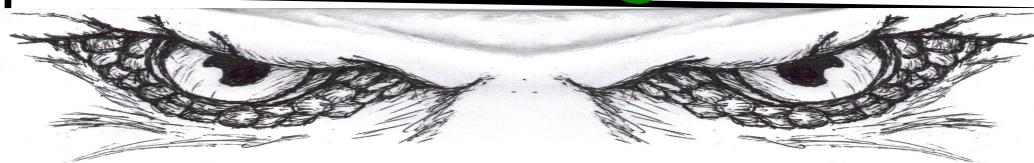


# The Bird's Eye View



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## Homecoming '13 Heads to Paris

By: Chelsey Milligan

The theme for Homecoming this year is an "Evening in Paris." Student Government has been planning the event for weeks. Meetings are held Wednesday and Friday mornings at 7:45. This year Student Government has a new sponsor, Mrs. Jennifer Borkowski.

SHS is kicking the homecoming week off with dress-up days: Monday - Hawaiian Day, Tuesday - Blast from the Past, Wednesday - Class Color Day (seniors wear black, juniors wear blue, sophomores wear yellow, and freshmen wear grey), Thursday - Celebrity Day, and Friday - School Spirit Day. Students can also wear a hat for \$1 on Friday.

On Wednesday evening at Knapp Field, the juniors will play the freshmen and the seniors will



**2013 Homecoming court (bottom l to r): Lora Fritsch, Hannah Wilfong, Katie Wooldridge, Morgan Cates, Marion Black, Keri Watts, and Alysa Kaiser. Back row (l to r) Brendan Schiller, Leighton Grothaus, James Krankel, Ryan Goeken, Jared Gisy, Garrett Simpson, and Josh Jorden.**

take on the sophomores in the powder puff play-off games.

Friday afternoon is the annual homecoming pep rally. After the pep rally, the powder puff championship game will be played. The entrance fee will be \$1.

The homecoming parade on Friday, Oct. 4, in Shipman and will begin at 6 p.m. The bonfire will be held in the Shipman park immediate-

ly following the parade.

The homecoming game will be played on Sat., Oct. 5, at 1 p.m. against Roxana.

The dance will be held from 8-11 p.m. in the MPR with coronation at 9:30. Seniors nominated court members during the week of Sept. 9. Queen candidates Marion Black, Morgan Cates, Lora Fritsch, Alysa Kaiser, Keri Watts, Hannah Wilfong, and Katie Wooldridge. King candidates are Jared Gisy, Ryan Goeken, Leighton Grothaus, Josh Jorden, James Krankel, Brendan Schiller, and Garrett Simpson.

Breathalyzers will be given at the door.

After the homecoming activities wind down, Mrs. Borkowski explained what she wants student government to focus on for the rest of the year, "I want to work on improving our school to make it a better place and possibly help out with some charities to get us more involved."

## New School Year Brings Changes in Rules and Parking Lot

By: News Staff

With the start of a new school year, changes in rules and policies have been made by the administration. On the first day of school, Mr. Mark Bearley, High School Principal, and Mrs. Peg Mitchell, dean of students, highlighted important handbook changes with students.

"You must have a doctor's note within seven days of your absence. Any note turned in one week after the absence will not be accepted as an excused absence for the ten day absence rule for field trips or prom."

Student were also reminded by to

keep their school issued padlock on their locker at all times. Backpacks, coats, purses, and book bags must be kept in lockers during the day.

Mr. Bearley reiterated, "These items are not to be carried from class to class. Leave them in your locker."

This year, the most noticeable change is the parking lot. Over the summer pot holes were filled, the entire facility was oiled and chipped, and the lot was lined. Each parking space is now two feet wider compared to last year's lines.



**Renovations to the parking lot at SHS improved the appearance and made the spaces wider.**

## New Checkout System in Place at Southwestern Library

By: Casey Moore

According to Mrs. Laura Naugle, the library has undergone many changes over the past few months. Besides adapting to a new checkout system, the library also added many new books to its own collection.

The new Polaris Library Database, Illinois Heartland, has 450 libraries to choose from and it allows students to order books themselves, keep track of where their book orders are, and keep track of their library fines.

Along with all of this, the library now offers the new Gale Research Database for students. It contains videos, magazine articles, and books for student research projects.

Mrs. Naugle will be spending the majority of her time at the high school this



year whereas last year she spent many hours in the elementary buildings. She commented that being in the middle and high school is actually her

favorite.

Mrs. Woods, library aid, travels to each elementary building throughout the week to serve as the elementary students' librarian.

As a tip, Mrs. Naugle suggested reading the popular novel Hitler's Secret, by William Osborne, and all of the up to date non-fiction that the library has to offer.

To log on and connect to the library system, ask Mrs. Naugle and she will point students in the right direction.



**The school librarian, Mrs. Naugle, preparing for the book fair.**

The website for the SHARE program is <http://swhe.illshareit.com>.

## New Year, New Rooms: Teachers Relocate at SHS

By: Emily Bowman

With the start of the new school year having finally arrived, the school has decided to bring more than new students and teachers to the table. This year, the classrooms have been rearranged so that English and Math teachers are located in freshman hallway, History and Science in Senior Hall, and Welding/Agriculture in sophomore hallway.

"With the new common core curriculum, it is important for teachers to be able to collaborate," stated Mr. Mark Bearley, principal, "Now the alignment of the building allows this to occur." Mr. Bearley stated that it was around the end of last year when he decided to reassign the rooms.

Some of the teachers had been in their previous room for several years.

"I agreed to switch rooms, and since the room I asked for was unavailable, I moved to room 2," commented Mr. Roger Henry, history teacher, about his room change. "The move was hard. I had to give up murals and 19 years of tradi-

tion."

Even with tradition having changed, he continued on to state that the new room allowed him more space and isolation to not be a distraction for other teachers. Even still, some of the students are having a hard time adjusting to the change. In an effort to bring back some tradition, Mr. Henry stated that he would be allowing students to paint more murals on his wall, and explained that he wanted the students to,

"have a sense of pride that this is their room and their school. And they should have the means by which to express their talent."

Mr. Dan DeLong, English teacher, moved back to freshman hallway. "It's nice being back., I prefer freshman hall over senior hall."

He informed us that the quotations on his walls were brought into the new room, and that he was open to suggestions on new ways to characterize the room.

Mr. Matt Hasquin, history instructor,



**Mr. Henry getting comfortable in his new room as the year begins.**



**Marion Black works on homework as Mr. Hasquin settles into his new room.**

moved to the senior hallway. His old room closely resembles his new one, but at the same time there are many changes.

He has stated that these changes have all been positive, and that it is a fresh start for the new year. "I think overall the [room] change is fine. I get to talk to Mr. Henry more often, see more of the senior class, and the hallway isn't crowded. It's a positive change."



## New S.T.E.M. Class Creates Steam Boats

**By: Ricci Flannery**

The number of science credits students need to graduate were changed from 2 to 2 1/2. The science department added a semester long class for juniors and seniors called STEM. Ms. Debbie Gaffney is teaching STEM, which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

"In science, there has been a huge push to integrate math and engineering," explained Mrs. Jen Borkowski, science teacher. "STEM was a great class to add."

Ms. Gaffney said that this class tests the students' patience, their ability to work with others and their creativity.



**J.P. Mueller (left), Garrett Simpson, and Ms. Gaffney work to get their group's boat to move.**

Ms. Gaffney stated that the class recently built steam boats and will be making wind turbines, studying hydraulics, making biodiesel, and studying electricity in the future. She also added



**Ryan Goeken lights the flame that will help propel his steam boat.**

that the projects are "energy" themed.

When asked what she hopes students learn, she replied, "Hands on skills, how to be creative, patience, and how to think for themselves."

She said that it's kind of difficult being the first teacher to have this program

## Ms. Alex Weinberg Is Back Teaching Music

**By: Austin O'Heron**

Ms. Alexandria Weinberg said that she has been involved with music since she was 10 years old. Ms. Weinberg explained that her grandparents got her started in music by playing in small city bands.

She graduated from Blackburn College and began teaching music at Lincolnwood High School in Raymond, Ill.

She was hired by Southwestern School District in 2004 and taught elementary music until 2009.



When Ms. Weinberg was laid off from the district, she was a long-term substitute in Gillespie.

Weinberg said that she was elated when she got the phone call to come

back and teach in the Southwestern district. She said, "I love the faculty that I work with."

She plans to increase the number of events that the band plays at. She also plans to change the way students are chosen to go to IMEA music contests.

She has already added the number of sporting events that the band plays at.

She said, "I grew up playing the clarinet, but I can play almost all the instruments." Her strongest instrument is the saxophone.

## Mr. Blake Dempsey Joins P.E. Department

**By: Amber Freeman**

Most students recognize Mr. Blake Dempsey as their elementary school P.E. teacher, and now they are seeing him in the high school. Mr. Dempsey joins the P.E. department to teach regular P.E. during first and second hour. He then travels to the grade schools to teach P.E.

This is Mr. Dempsey's 17<sup>th</sup> year of teaching P.E. in the district. When asked how he likes being a P.E. teacher, Mr. Dempsey said, "I love it. I wouldn't trade it for any other career in the

world."

Since he is most experienced with basketball, he said that it is his favorite unit to teach.

He added, "It's something both the boys and girls enjoy the most."

Even though students may enjoy having him at the high school, Mr. Dempsey said his favorite grade to teach is third grade because, "that's when the kids start to develop their skills and put them to use."



**Mr. Dempsey is teaching P.E. at the High School.**

## SHS International Club Goes French!

**By: Casey Moore**

On June 8, 2013 the members of International Club were off! The four chaperones and nineteen students were on their way to France.

Mr. Matt Hasquin, one of the chaperones, commented that the once in a lifetime trip was a blend of recreation and education for the students.

Some main attractions for the International Club were: the coastal towns of Normandy (a French region), Omaha Beach, and the American Cemetery. They also visited the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre Art Museum in Paris and multiple cathedrals.

Ashley Kraushaar, senior, said, "We went to [like] ten cathedrals."

Sondra Thurm, senior, stated that she couldn't think of anything that she wanted to see but didn't get to because she saw so much. Plus, she was happy to get away from home for a while.

According to chaperone, Mr. Darren



**The students pose in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France.**

Mosley, the most fun moment on the trip was cruising the Seine River at night and getting to see the Eiffel Tower lit up. Mr. Mosley also said that the only thing that went wrong didn't even happen in France, it happened at Newark, New Jersey. The airport was noth-

ing but delays and backups.

On June 18, 2013, the International club returned from France. When asked how she felt about returning, Thurm commented, "It was good to be home, but I didn't want to leave."

Brianna Gillespie, student, when asked the same question, replied, "I was happy to be back, but missed a lot of things we got to do in France."

On Sept. 18, the International Club presented information about the 2013 trip and announced the destination for the next trip which will be to Spain, Southern France, Switzerland, and Italy.

### In the Halls with Leah

#### Who is your favorite music artist?

Hayley Neibel: All Time Low  
Brennen Bazzell: Toby Keith  
Alyssa Payne: Sleeping with Sirens  
Grady Davis: Luke Bryant  
Lilly Mathis: The Wonder Years  
Laura Rayson: One Direction  
Mrs. Goetten: Coldplay  
Breanna Fowler: Pierce the Veil  
Emily Bowman: VEDA  
Ricci Flannery: One Direction  
Leah Cohrs: The 1975  
Mr. Redfern: The Black Keys  
Amber Freeman: Drake  
Chelsey Milligan: Hunter Hayes  
Maggie Carrigan: Tech N9ne  
Zach Moore: Avenged Sevenfold  
Leslie Cozart: Green Day  
Corey Moore: Vampire Weekend

## Artist of the Month: Andrew Nixon

**By: Leah Cohrs**

The *Bird's Eye View* editors and staff will be recognizing an "Artist of the Month" in every issue. Mrs. Susan Ruyle, art teacher, will recommend students who have exceptional artistic talent. This month, sophomore Andrew Nixon is the "Artist of the Month."

Over the summer Andrew attended an art camp on the Eastern Illinois University campus. He went to the camp on July 6<sup>th</sup> and stayed on the campus for a week.

He said that he started getting into art and drawing around the beginning of freshman year. He commented that he just picked up art as a hobby and later



**Andrew Nixon sketches some ideas for his next art project.**

realized it was very fun and soon started to become good at it.

He quoted, "I learned a lot about shading, sculpting and watercolor painting. I worked a lot with Styrofoam and plaster also."

He is currently taking a digital graphics class and is focusing a lot on his grades. He explained that art has helped motivate him to

make good grades because he would like to get into a good college with a strong art program.

He stated, "It originally started out as a hobby, but now I actually really want to make a career out of this."



## A Dream Come True: Band Trip to Florida

**By: Brittany Means**

On Sunday morning, June 6, former band teacher Mr. Elwyn Mielke along with 46 students, and several parents, boarded a charter bus and started their long ride to Orlando, Florida.

Once the band arrived in Orlando they had the first day to part into groups and explore the "land of magic." The parks they could enjoy were: Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios, Epcot, and Animal Kingdom.

On day two, the band was scheduled to perform and participate in a workshop. The students played four songs that had been practiced repeatedly. The songs played were "The Thunderer", "Pacifica", "Glory of The Yankee Navy", and "Denbridgeway". They played in Downtown Disney in the Epcot Center.

Once the performance was over, students met with a professional musician who had worked at Disney for years as a trumpet player. He gave the students some tips to improve playing for concerts. The workshop was held in Epcot.

When asked how the work-

shop went, Mrs. Lori Spurling, a chaperone of the trip, commented, "It went well. It seemed to be the highlight of the trip."

When interviewed about his favorite part of the trip, Blake Beeman, sophomore, replied, "The park and the rides were pretty good." Beeman also said he enjoyed the workshop.

Aaron Hand's, junior, favorite part of the trip was the hotel room he stayed in.

Sophomore Brad Spurling said that his favorite part of the trip was the workshop and being able to be with his friends.

Another Florida trip is in the progress to being planned for the year of 2016. When asked what inspired them to take the band to Disney, Mrs. Spurling replied, "It was an experience that the students would enjoy. Not many people have this opportunity; so for some, it is a once in a life time chance."



**Former band teacher, Mr. Mielke, directs Southwest-ern's high school band at Disney World.**



**From l to r: Morgan Cates, Paige Wolfe, Sondra Thurm, and Emma Norris show off their Mickey ears after performing at Epcot.**

## Serena Schafer Wins Grand Champion at State Fair

**By: Rebecca Vogt and Juliet Wooldridge**

This summer, sophomore Serena Schafer won Grand Champion Market for her rabbits at the Illinois State Fair. Schafer competed against 48 others between the ages of eight and eighteen. On August 10, Schafer competed with her first place California rabbits for Grand Champion Market. Schafer's rabbits placed first in the ranking against the other 48 competitors.

Schafer has won other awards with other breeds of rabbits including "Best in Show" and "Best in Breed".

Schafer said, "I started showing rab-

bits at around the age of eight, because I helped my sister and it just grew on me!"

After high school and rabbit showing, Schafer sees herself going to college, preferably a university. After college, Schafer plans on selling and raising rabbits and other animals on a small farm. On top of that she has hopes to judge rabbits.

"I was shocked that I won this. I never expected to win this award. Eight years of hard-work paid off!" commented Schafer on winning Grand Champion market.



**Serena Schafer with her Grand Champion rabbits poses with the two judges of the rabbit show.**

## Boys Soccer Team Kicks Off Inaugural Season

**By: Hayley Neibel**

This year Southwestern High School added boys and girls soccer. The boys play in the fall while the girls play in the spring. Stephen French volunteered to be the high school soccer coach.

Coach French commented that he has enjoyed coaching soccer for years, so when he was asked if he was willing to coach the high school team, he said, "Yes".

When French was growing up in New Zealand, he said most boys played either rugby or soccer and he chose soccer.

He quoted, "I think you have to be crazy to play rugby."

When he came to America to go to St. Louis Christian College, French and another New Zealander started a team in college. He played three years and coached the team for a year after he graduated.

There are twenty boys on the soc-

cer team. Four seniors, Brendan Schiller, Levi Harter, Trenton Hagen, and Cody McElroy, are on the roster.

Coach French quoted "We are already halfway through the season. The team improves noticeably with each game. Sixty-five percent of our team are freshmen and we are going up against Varsity level



*The soccer team awaits their game.*

**"Our strongest player is teamwork." - Coach Stephen French**

Both agreed that their biggest competition is Carlinville.

Schiller and Hagen added that they are improving but it's just a learning process.

This season Schiller and Hagen agreed that they have tough competition and they're not doing too badly. Hagen commented, "At least we are scoring."

teams. So although we have not yet won a game, we are reaching our goals."

Leaders on the team have been Hagen, a midfielder, has been playing for four years and Schiller, a center and goalie, has been playing for nine years.

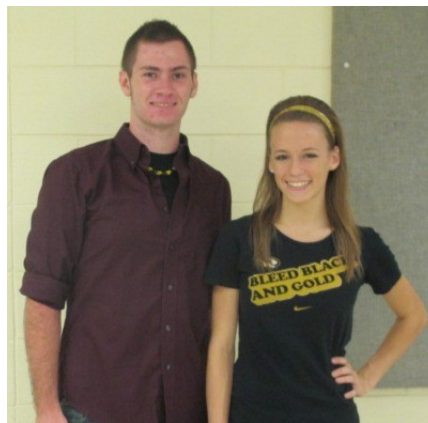
## Cross Country Team Races for Winning Season

**By: Emily Bowman**

The cross country team is off and running with seven girls and six boys on the roster. Mr. Gary Bowker returns for his 24th year as cross country coach. Two seniors are on the roster: Josh Jorden and Lauren Jenkins.

Normally, unless on heat schedule, the team practices at 3:30 until 5, every day after school except for Fridays. If heat is an issue, the team practices at 7 p.m. to prevent any problems that could occur for team members. Even with practice starting later, the heat had affected the team by the practices length and intensity, making workouts less challenging for team members. With the struggles of the heat schedule, the team still welcomes new members and runners to join them for their practices.

"[The number one goal is to] Realize that it is a lifetime sport, and to have enjoyment and appreciation for it," Coach Bowker stated when asked



*Seniors Josh Jorden and Lauren Jenkins are leaders on the cross country team.*

about some goals for the team this year. "I like the fact that we have some kids from each class, but I would still like to have more."

Along with the team having practice daily, the team has a new assistant coach for the year. After an inju-

ry, Sondra Thurm, fellow team member, became an "assistant coach" for the team.

"I'm helping coach by timing, recording, and assisting in workouts," Sondra claimed. She also mentioned that she has been a part of the team since her sophomore year, and believes that with her help coaching and more team members, that they will have advantage for the season.

The team will be competing in the "Flighted Invitational" at Schneider Park from 9 a.m. to noon, on Saturday, Oct. 5th. The team hopes that students and staff will come out and support them.



**Good luck to the SHS Cross Country Team!**





## Cheerleaders Tumble Into A New Season

**By: Rachel Meisner**

The Southwestern High School Cheerleaders welcome a new coach, Mrs. Amanda Madson. Coach Madson has a strong background in cheerleading, she was a cheerleader for seven years and has been coaching the sport for four years.

When asked what her favorite thing about the sport was, she quickly responded, "Everything!" Coach Madson started the season stating that she wanted to gain respect from the student body and staff.

The cheerleaders put in many hours of hard work over the summer learning new sideline cheers, crowd cheers, hello cheer. Coach and the cheerleaders also worked on choreographing a new school song dance and lifting stunts.

They also attended cheer camp at the high school in July as well as walking in the Shipman Homecoming Parade and working the lemonade stand for the SHS Boosters Club.

Right now the cheerleaders are prepping for homecoming then competition season.

Fourteen girls are on the Varsity squad that requires them to participate on the football, basketball, and competition squads. Seniors Rachel Meisner



**Seniors Rachel Meisner and Maddie Pilkington are excited about a new year and new coach.**

and Maddie Pilkington help with leadership roles. Pilkington said her main goal for the season is to grow as a squad!

The cheerleaders were just graciously given \$2,500 from an anonymous donor to buy new uniforms. The girls have picked out what uniforms they would like to buy and will be showcasing them during basketball and competition season!

## SHS Football Team Looks For First Win



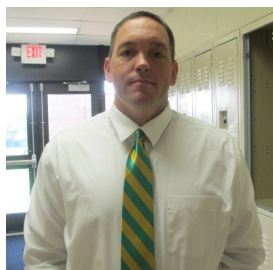
**By: Rebecca Vogt and Juliet Wooldridge**

The 2013 Varsity football season started off with a loss to Hillsboro after a strong first half, 19-7, but came up short 33-19. Seniors J.P. Mueller and Corey Moore scored the first touch downs of the season.

After the loss against Hillsboro, the team was overcame by Greenville 42-0, then by Litchfield 30-15. The Birds lost at Gillespie 38-12. Pana defeated the Birds at home, 34-6. The team's record is currently 0-5.

The varsity team has a new coach this year, Mr. Brian Borkowski. Coach Borkowski played football until he was a sophomore in high school. He then was injured and couldn't play but his coaches allowed him to observe the games which then led him into coaching.

Coach Borkowski said that Mr. Lansaw already had a good foundation set for the team so he just trying to build upon it and working with more conditioning.



**Mr. Borkowski is new Varsity football coach for the Piasa Birds.**

The team lifted weights on Tues. and Thurs. and competed in a passing league on Wed. Practice officially started August 14<sup>th</sup>.

The assistant coaches this year include: Wade DeVries, Chris Red-

fern, Aaron Fricke, and Clark Couch. The volunteer coaches this year include Michael Fisher, Zach Slightom, and Coach Taylor.

"I'm excited about two things this season: seeing the achievements of the underclassmen and being able to allow the senior class a good send off," commented Mr. Brian Borkowski. His thoughts on the freshmen playing football were that they are hardworking and an overall good class.

Mueller commented, "The team works really well together and we're excited to play against Staunton in the homecoming game."



**Varsity players (l to r) John Paul Mueller, Dakota Duvall, Connor Robinson, and Garrett Simpson prepare for the second half of the season.**

When asked his thoughts about the season, Moore stated, "We've had some blows losing key players to injuries, but I believe we are building a great program for years to come."

The team has helped in the community by working at the Brighton picnic and volunteering for churches. Coach Borkowski said that the team is always looking for ideas to help out more.

## SHS Volleyball Team Takes the Court

**By: Breanna Fowler**

The Lady Birds have had a successful start for the 2013 season. They placed 3rd in the Alton tournament, have a conference record of 4-1, and an overall record of 7-4.

Coach Julie Kinser returns for her tenth year as the team's coach. She stated, "Our summer open gyms were productive and pretty successful."

The team also played in tournaments this summer to prepare for the season.

When asked how she feels the volleyball team will do this season, Coach Kinser said that she believes it will be a very successful season, and the team will improve a lot.

Four seniors are on the roster: Alysa Kaiser, Lora Fritsch, Katie Wooldridge, and Lauren Jenkins. They all agreed that the season would go good and it will be a lot better than previous years.

The senior Lady Birds also added that they want to see the volleyball team dominate in the championship game, win the county tournament, and win conference.

Coach Kinser explained what she wants the team to accomplish, "I want

to see them achieve their goals. Advancing to the County Championships and giving ourselves the opportunity to win both County and Conference on the top of our list."

When asked who the toughest competition for the Lady Birds is this year, the seniors and Coach Kinser all responded with "Carlinville."

The Lady Birds were excited when they defeated Carlinville for the 5th time in school history in Conference play on Sept. 17, at home, in three games.



**Seniors (Left to Right) Katie Wooldridge, Lauren Jenkins, Lora Fritsch, and Alysa Kaiser look forward to the Macoupin County tournament.**



Support the Lady Birds when they take on Roxana on Oct. 17th at home. Senior Night will be Oct. 22nd and the girls play Hillsboro.



## Golf Team Tee's Off for 2013 Season

**By: Amber Freeman**

Back for his second year as a volunteer coach, Gary Ballard is helping the golf team find success. Coach Ballard has been studying and playing golf for the past fifty years. He said that he plans to continue coaching in the future as long as his grandsons continue to play.

In order to prepare for the season, Coach Ballard commented, "I play golf and encourage the players to prepare for the season."

Coach Ballard stated his goals for this golf season. He said that he would like to have fun at practice with the players and improve each week. He said that he would like to win at least four matches this season and finish in top six at conference.

His main goal is that he would love to have someone from Southwestern High School to make it to sectionals.

Coach Ballard took over the golf program because he knew players from the past year wanted to golf and he didn't want them miss out on the opportunity. He is also involved because his grandson, Nick Ballard wanted to play.

Nick Ballard, Collin Baumgartner, Tyler Dunham, Chase Bowman, Scott Kastling, and Reid Nixon will attend the Conference golf match on Monday, Sept. 30th.



**Junior Nick Ballard hopes to medal at conference and make it to sectionals.**



**Congratulations to Chase Bowman who made the All-Conference Golf Team!!**



## Southwestern FFA: Growing Their Legacy

By: Rachel Meisner

During the week of June 11, the Southwestern FFA chapter made their annual trip to Springfield to attend the 85th Illinois State FFA Convention. 16 members from the Southwestern chapter attended, along with thousands of other FFA members and guests from all across the state.

The FFA competed in the chapter display competition where the chapter makes an interactive booth designed to promote agriculture and the jobs offered with it. The Southwestern chapter took

attended a dance, watched the state officers give their retiring address's, and watched an inspiring key note address.

On Wednesday night, 2013 graduate August Schetter put all of his hard work to the final test. He was one of ten Section Presidents running for a state office. After watching his speeches and sitting through the nerve wracking elections, Schetter was elected to serve as the Illinois State FFA Reporter for 2013-2014.

When asked Mr. Tim Reed the FFA advisor, how he felt after Schetter was elected, he responded, "I was very ex-

Chapter president Jon Loy stated that his biggest goal for the year is to get more members involved in competitions and activities.

The FFA is well underway in preparing for their upcoming competitions for the months of September and October!



**August Schetter, Illinois State FFA Reporter**



**Jacob Meisner, National FFA Officer Candidate**

**"He has a really good shot at being National President. He has come a long way from the goofy kid I had as a freshman." - Mr. Tim Reed**

first place and will later travel to the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky on October 30-November 2.

In addition, Southwestern competed for the second year in the scrapbook competition. The chapter historians spent many days putting together the scrapbook with pictures from competitions, conferences, meetings, and their annual banquet. The FFA chapter received the silver in the scrapbook competition.

Senior Jon Loy and 2013 graduate Katie Baker were Southwestern's only State Degree recipients. The members

cited! All of his hard work the last four years has paid off".

A former Southwestern graduate and Illinois State Officer, Jacob Meisner was announced to be the Illinois National Officer Candidate. Reed's comment after Meisner was announced was, "Wow! He has a really good shot at being National President. He has come a long way from the goofy kid I had as a freshman".

Over the summer the FFA worked at the Macoupin County Fair in the food stand, and they helped work in the FFA barnyard at the state fair. The FFA is already preparing for an exciting school year.



## 2013-14 FFA Officers Elected

President- Jon Loy  
Vice President- Hanna Moore  
Farm Plot Manager- Leighton Grothaus  
Secretary- Rachel Meisner  
Reporter- Nick Ballard  
Treasurer- Keely Egelhoff  
Historian- Jamie Moore  
Sentinel- Ashley Egelhoff



**Seniors FFA officers Jon Loy, Hanna Moore, and Leighton Grothaus**

## 2013-14 Student Government Officers Announced

Co- Presidents- Keri Watts and Morgan Crane  
Vice President- Hanna Moore  
Treasurer- Lauren Jenkins  
Reporter- Ashley Kraushaar  
Secretary- Chelsey Milligan

## Artist of the Month: *Faith Miller*

By: **Brittany Hand**

October's Artist of the Month is senior Faith Miller. The art classes she is currently taking are Drawing I/II, and next semester she will be in ceramics. In the past, she has been enrolled in 2D and 3D.

Her main inspiration is her father, who is also her mentor. She commented, "He himself mostly doodles, but he pushes me to make art." Other people who inspire Miller are Mrs. Susan Ruyle and street artists.

When asked when she first started creating art, she commented, "My second grade year; I wanted to be an illustrator."

She wants to pursue a career in art by making blueprints for electrical engineering, which she thinks is a form of art in itself.

At the moment, her favorite style or art is realistic, which includes drawing pictures of people. In the picture shown, she is holding her portfolio for her drawing class, which she designed herself.

"If you like it, you should stick with it," is her advice to any young artists hoping to pursue a career in art.



**Senior Faith Miller poses with her drawing portfolio.**

## SHS October Students of the month



**Freshman Kaytlyn Dorris**



**Sophomore Payton Werner**

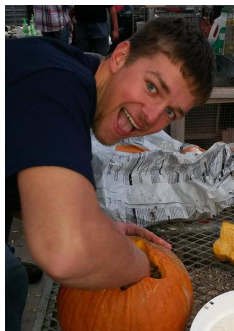


**Junior Grace Starrett**



**Senior Bo Watson**

## FFA Carves Out Good Times By Carving Pumpkins



**Senior Nick Ballard takes out the seeds.**



**Juniors Emme Hays, Mackenzie Wolff, and Evan Lewis enjoying the event.**



**Sophomore Ethan Wilson plans his masterpiece.**

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